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| I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to the MS: PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |                          |
| Name of Depositor)  | <u>Fani Malikouzakis</u> |
| Signature of Depositor  | <u>Fani Malikouzakis</u> |

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Koji KITA  
Serial Number : To be Assigned  
Filing Date : Concurrently Herewith  
Priority Foreign Appl. No. : JP 2002-53464  
Priority Date : February 28, 2003  
For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR RECOVERING READING FAULTS

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MS: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination please amend the application as follows: